

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method for monitoring a patient, comprising:
2 generating a robot movement input command at a remote
3 station;
4 transmitting the robot movement input command;
5 receiving the robot movement input command at a robot
6 that has a camera and a microphone;
7 moving the robot to view and hear a patient; and,
8 transmitting an image of the patient and a sound of the
9 patient from the robot to the remote station.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the robot moves
2 across a floor of a medical facility.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the robot movement
2 input command is generated by a doctor.

1 4. The method of claim 1, further comprising
2 transmitting a video image and a sound of a doctor at the
3 remote station to the robot, the video image being

4 displayed by a monitor of the robot, the sound being
5 generated by a speaker of the robot.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the robot movement
2 input command causes the robot camera to zoom relative to
3 the patient.

1 6. The method of claim 1, further comprising
2 transmitting a video image of a medical chart from the
3 robot to the remote station.

1 7. The method of claim 1, further comprising
2 generating and transmitting a question from the remote
3 station to the robot.

1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the question is
2 generated by a speaker of the robot.

1 9. The method of claim 7, wherein the question is
2 displayed by a monitor of the robot.

1 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the robot movement
2 input command is transmitted through a broadband network.

1 11. A method for monitoring a patient, comprising:
2 generating a plurality of robot movement input commands
3 at a remote station;
4 transmitting the robot movement input commands;
5 receiving the robot movement input commands at a robot
6 that has a camera and a microphone;
7 moving the robot from a first patient room to a second
8 patient room of a medical facility; and,
9 transmitting an image of a patient and a sound of the
10 patient from the robot to the remote station.

1 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the robot movement
2 input command is generated by a doctor.

1 13. The method of claim 11, further comprising
2 transmitting a video image and a sound of a doctor at the
3 remote station to the robot, the video image being
4 displayed by a monitor of the robot, the sound being
5 generated by a speaker of the robot.

1 14. The method of claim 11, wherein the robot movement
2 input command causes the robot camera to zoom relative to
3 the patient.

1 15. The method of claim 11, further comprising
2 transmitting a video image of a medical chart from the
3 robot to the remote station.

1 16. The method of claim 11, further comprising
2 generating and transmitting a question from the remote
3 station to the robot.

1 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the question is
2 generated by a speaker of the robot.

1 18. The method of claim 16, wherein the question is
2 displayed by a monitor of the robot.

1 19. The method of claim 11, wherein the robot movement
2 input command is transmitted through a broadband network.